

Message Text

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ORIGIN DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 INSE-00
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DRAFTED BY D/HA:GWARREN:MTM

APPROVED BY D/HA:JLCARLIN

D/HA:JCHAVCHAVADZE

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P 262028Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: ASSYRIAN AND ARMENIAN CASES IN ATHENS

1. MISSION SHOULD INFORM UNHCR THAT INS HAS AGAIN REJECTED DEPARTMENT PROPOSAL TO PAROLE INTO U.S. 78 REFUGEES REMAINING IN ATHENS FROM ORIGINAL GROUP OF ASSYRIANS AND ARMENIANS TRANSFERRED FROM BEIRUT. INS' COMMUNICATION ON THIS MATTER READS IN PART AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE A REVIEW OF ATHENS TELEGRAM NO. 2647 DATED MARCH 23, 1977 FAILS TO ESTABLISH ANY HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS TO USE AS A BASIS FOR CONSULTING WITH THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES OF THE CONGRESS ON THE SUBJECT OF A GROUP PAROLE OF THESE PERSONS. SIMILARLY, THERE ARE INSUFFICIENT GROUNDS TO EXERCISE INDIVIDUAL PAROLES. THE SUBJECTS HAVE BEEN REJECTED FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY AND ARE NOT INTEGRAL PARTS OF FAMILY GROUPS

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IN THE UNITED STATES.

AS YOU KNOW, THE NUMBER OF PERSONS BROUGHT TO ATHENS WAS SEVERAL HUNDRED MORE THAN ORM AND THIS SERVICE HAD AGREED TO OR AUTHORIZED. WELL OVER 100 HAD BEEN REJECTED IN BEIRUT AT AN EARLIER DATE. IN ADDITION, WCC HAD INDICATED THAT REJECTED ALIENS IN ATHENS WOULD BE RETURNED TO BEIRUT

OR BE RESETTLED ELSEWHERE.

UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I REGRETFULLY REJECT YOUR REQUEST FOR PAROLE. IN VIEW OF THE IMPROVING POLITICAL SITUATION IN LEBANON AND THE FACT THAT UNITED STATES PERSONNEL ARE NOW RETURNED TO BEIRUT, I BELIEVE THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING THESE REJECTED APPLICANTS TO LEBANON SHOULD BE FURTHER EXPLORED. UNQUOTE

2. WHILE DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO PURSUE THIS MATTER FURTHER WITH INS, PROSPECTS ARE NOT GOOD. MISSION, THEREFORE, SHOULD AGAIN URGE UNHCR TO RENEW ITS EFFORTS TO FIND RESETTLEMENT POSSIBILITIES FOR THESE 78 REFUGEES IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE USA. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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